



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Sandy Hansen Trails to Memorialize Parks
Foundation Supporter**

GRAND RAPIDS – The Kent County Parks Foundation is pleased to announce that four miles of trails in Millennium Park will forever be recognized as the Sandy Hansen Shoreline Trails. Part of the Fred Meijer Millennium Trail Network, the Sandy Hansen Shoreline Trails include a one-mile nature trail and three miles of paved, multi-purpose trail.

Sandy is remembered for her passion for nature and birds, a legacy she nurtured in her three children and eleven grandchildren. She volunteered for West Michigan Environmental Action Council, was active in the Audubon Society, and was a long-time supporter of the Kent County Parks Foundation. When she passed away in January, her husband of 49 years, Dick Hansen, along with their children, Rick, Beth, Kristi and the grandchildren, pledged a significant gift in Sandy's honor to memorialize her love of nature and parks.

Dick and Sandy Hansen previously funded construction of the Hansen Nature Trail through a unique natural fen at the western edge of the park. Today's gift includes funding for a boardwalk through a scenic wetland to connect the Hansen Nature Trail to the Sandy Hansen Shoreline Trails that surround the lake in the park's main recreation area.

"The Hansens have been such amazing supporters of Millennium Park. We are deeply honored that the family members are extending their generosity through this fitting memorial to Sandy," said Lori J. Baker, President of the Kent County Parks Foundation. "She loved being close to nature, and shared that love with her family. It is a privilege to know her everlasting tribute will benefit the many visitors of Millennium Park."

Millennium Park is one of the largest urban parks in the United States. Kent County Parks manages an extensive network of paved and natural-surfaced trails within the boundaries of the park's 1,500 acres. The popular trail system at Millennium Park is open to non-motorized and non-equestrian use.

***For more information, contact Roger Sabine at the Kent County Parks Department
at (616) 632-PARK (7275).***

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